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Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Jan Piotr **Jaremczuk** (Poland)

I. Introduction

1. The previous recommendations made by the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly under item 151 appear in the report of the Committee contained in document A/54/509.

2. For its further consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the revised post requirements for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000 (A/54/648);

(b) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the support account for peacekeeping operations (A/54/661);

(c) Note by the Secretary-General on death and disability benefits: eighth quarterly report for the period from 1 April to 30 June 1999 (A/C.5/53/66);

(d) Note by the Secretary-General on death and disability benefits: ninth quarterly report for the period from 1 July to 30 September 1999 (A/C.5/54/13).

3. The Fifth Committee resumed its consideration of the item at its 14th, 15th, 45th, 47th and 49th meetings, on 25 and 26 October and on 10, 15 and 21 December 1999. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/54/SR.14, 15, 45, 47 and 49).

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II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft decision A/C.5/54/L.16 and draft resolution A/C.5/54/L.27

4. At the 46th meeting, on 13 December, the representative of Ukraine, on behalf of Belarus and Ukraine, introduced a draft decision entitled "Relocation of Ukraine to the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (c) of General Assembly resolution 43/232" (A/C.5/54/L.16) and orally revised it by changing the title to read "Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations" and inserting the words "the Republic of Belarus and" after the words "financial contributions of". The draft decision, incorporating the revisions, was subsequently reissued and read as follows:

> "The General Assembly, recalling its decision 49/470 of 23 December 1994, decides that, from the date of adoption of the present decision and without prejudice to the relevant financial regulations and rules of the United Nations, all financial contributions of the Republic of Belarus and Ukraine to the Organization shall be counted against the minimum payments required to avoid the loss of voting rights in the General Assembly under the provisions of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations."

5. At the 48th meeting, on 17 December, the representative of Cuba, Vice-Chairman of the Committee and coordinator of informal consultations on the question, made a statement and, as a result of the informal consultations held, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations" (A/C.5/54/L.27).

6. At the same meeting, in the light of the statement made by the representative of Cuba, the representatives of Ukraine and Belarus withdrew draft decision A/C.5/54/L.16.

7. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/54/L.27 without a vote (see para. 13, draft resolution I).

8. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements in explanation of position were made by the representatives of Ukraine and Belarus (see A/C.5/54/SR.48).

B. Draft decisions A/C.5/54/L.20, A/C.5/54/L.21 and A/C.5/54/L.22

9. At the 47th meeting, on 15 December, the representative of Pakistan, Vice-Chairman of the Committee and coordinator of informal consultations on this question, introduced three draft decisions, entitled "Placement of the Republic of Kiribati for peacekeeping assessments" (A/C.5/54/L.20), "Placement of the Republic of Nauru for peacekeeping assessments" (A/C.5/54/L.21) and "Placement of Tonga for peacekeeping assessments" (A/C.5/54/L.22), which the Committee adopted without a vote (see para. 14, draft decisions I, II and III).

C. Draft resolution A/C.5/54/L.32

10. At the 49th meeting, on 21 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Support account for peacekeeping operations" (A/C.5/54/L.32), submitted by the Vice-Chairman, Dulce María Buergo Rodríguez (Cuba), on the basis of informal consultations.

11. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/54/L.32 without a vote (see para. 13, draft resolution II).

D. Draft decision IV proposed by the Chairman

12. At the 45th meeting, on 10 December, the Chairman orally proposed a draft decision entitled "Death and disability benefits", which the Committee adopted without a vote (see para. 14, draft decision IV).

III. Recommendations of the Fifth Committee

13. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its decision 49/470 of 23 December 1994,

1. *Decides* that, from the date of adoption of the present resolution and without prejudice to the relevant financial regulations and rules of the United Nations, all financial contributions of Belarus and Ukraine to the Organization, including those for which assessments were issued prior to 1996, shall be taken into account when determining whether the amount of their arrears, as calculated in accordance with decision 49/470, equals or exceeds the amount of the contributions due from Belarus and Ukraine for the preceding two full years in accordance with Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations;

2. *Emphasizes* that this decision shall not exempt Belarus and Ukraine from their obligation to pay all outstanding contributions, and calls upon Belarus and Ukraine to make proposals for the treatment of their arrears concerning the financing of peacekeeping operations;

3. *Decides* to keep this matter under review.

Draft resolution II
Support account for peacekeeping operations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/258 of 3 May 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 48/226 A of 23 December 1993, 48/226 B of 5 April 1994, 48/226 C of 29 July 1994, 49/250 of 20 July 1995, 50/11 of 2 November 1995, 50/221 A of 11 April 1996, 50/221 B of 7 June 1996, 51/226 of 3 April 1997, 51/239 A of 17 June 1997, 51/239 B and 51/243 of 15 September 1997, 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 52/234 and 52/248 of 26 June 1998, 53/12 A of 26 October 1998, 53/208 B of 18 December 1998 and 53/12 B of 8 June 1999 and its

decisions 48/489 of 8 July 1994, 49/469 of 23 December 1994 and 50/473 of 23 December 1995,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the support account for peacekeeping operations[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Reaffirming the need to continue to improve the administrative and financial management of peacekeeping operations,

Recognizing the need for adequate support during all phases of peacekeeping operations, including the liquidation and termination phases,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the revised post requirements for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000;[1]

2. *Endorses* the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General when submitting his support account proposal for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001 to fully implement the observations set out in paragraph 11 of the report of the Advisory Committee;[2]

4. *Notes* that the backstopping activities for peacekeeping operations require ongoing reviews which should take into account the overall evolution of peacekeeping trends;

5. *Affirms* the need for adequate funding for the backstopping of peacekeeping operations;

6. *Reaffirms* that the expenses of the Organization, including the backstopping of peacekeeping operations, shall be borne by Member States and, to that effect, that the Secretary-General should request adequate funding to maintain the capacity of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat;

7. *Approves* sixty-seven additional support account-funded temporary posts for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000;

8. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments not exceeding 3,501,600 United States dollars for the additional staff costs, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the General Assembly in the context of the performance report for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000.

14. The Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decisions:

Draft decision I
Placement of the Republic of Kiribati for peacekeeping assessments

The General Assembly decides, as an ad hoc arrangement, in respect of the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of its resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the General Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992,

[1] A/54/648.
[2] A/54/661.

49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 A to C of 18 December 1996 and 52/230 of 31 March 1998 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, for the apportionment of peacekeeping appropriations, that the Republic of Kiribati should be included in the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (d) of resolution 43/232 and that its contributions to peacekeeping operations should be calculated in accordance with the provisions of the relevant resolutions adopted and to be adopted by the Assembly regarding the scale of assessments.

Draft decision II
Placement of the Republic of Nauru for peacekeeping assessments

The General Assembly decides, as an ad hoc arrangement, in respect of the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of its resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the General Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 A to C of 18 December 1996 and 52/230 of 31 March 1998 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, for the apportionment of peacekeeping appropriations, that the Republic of Nauru should be included in the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (d) of resolution 43/232 and that its contributions to peacekeeping operations should be calculated in accordance with the provisions of the relevant resolutions adopted and to be adopted by the Assembly regarding the scale of assessments.

Draft decision III
Placement of Tonga for peacekeeping assessments

The General Assembly decides, as an ad hoc arrangement, in respect of the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of its resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 A to C of 18 December 1996 and 52/230 of 31 March 1998 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, for the apportionment of peacekeeping appropriations, that Tonga should be included in the group of Member States set out in paragraph 3 (d) of resolution 43/232 and that its contributions to peacekeeping operations should be calculated in accordance with the provisions of the relevant resolutions adopted and to be adopted by the Assembly regarding the scale of assessments.

Draft decision IV
Death and disability benefits

The General Assembly takes note of the notes by the Secretary-General on death and disability benefits[3] and on the progress made in clearing the backlog of claims for incidents.

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[3] A/C.5/53/66 and A/C.5/54/13.